



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: DeWayne Boyd

FORMER FEDERAL FUGITIVE INDICTED

DeWayne Boyd, former staffer of Congressman John Conyers, 49, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit on charges of failure to appear for sentencing in federal district court this past April, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Daniel D. Roberts, FBI Special Agent in Charge.

Boyd was convicted in December 2004, of various fraud charges after a trial before Hon. Robert H. Cleland. Today's indictment charges that he deliberately failed to appear for sentencing on April 12, 2005.

"Defendants who skip sentencing comprise the most extreme examples of those who refuse to accept any responsibility for their criminal behavior. Federal law enforcement agencies make it among their most important work to aggressively pursue fugitives, and we support their efforts by vigorously prosecuting all fugitive matters that come to our office. For a fugitive, the decision to flee means that when caught, they will likely face even substantially

more time in prison than they did in the first place,” stated Mr. Murphy.

When Boyd failed to appear, the FBI began an investigation into his whereabouts. He was eventually traced to Ghana. At that point criminal investigators in the State Department assisted in the investigation, and Boyd was located in Accra, Ghana. With the further assistance of the Ghanaian police, Boyd was arrested in Ghana on December 31 and expelled from that country the next day.

Additionally, by way of background, Boyd was required to surrender his passport to the Pretrial Services office in the Eastern District of Michigan at the time he was arraigned on the fraud charges for which he has now been convicted. During the fugitive investigation, however, the State Department developed evidence that Boyd had traveled to Ghana on a fraudulently obtained passport. Thus, in addition to the charge in today's indictment, Boyd has also been charged with passport fraud in another complaint that was issued in the District of Columbia. The new complaint charges that in February 2005, after Boyd's conviction but before his scheduled sentencing, Boyd lied to the State Department to obtain a replacement passport, falsely claiming that he had lost his old passport when in fact he had been required to relinquish it to the court. Boyd has not yet made an appearance on that complaint.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.